

Message Text

LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

PAGE 01 MUSCAT 01086 010943Z

11
ACTION OES-06

INFO OCT-01 NEA-10 ISO-00 AGR-05 INT-05 EB-07 COME-00

EPA-01 CIAE-00 INR-07 NSAE-00 IO-13 AID-05 SSO-00

INRE-00 /060 W
----- 065539

O 010900Z SEP 76
FM AMEMBASSY MUSCAT
TO SECSTATE WASHDC IMMEDIATE 2443

LIMITED OFFICIAL USE MUSCAT 1086

E.O. 11652: N/A
TAGS: EAID EFIS MU
SUBJECT: OMANGOV REQUESTS U.S. EXPERT TO INVESTIGATE LARGE FISH
KILL

1. ON SEPTEMBER 1, AMBASSADOR WAS TELEPHONED BY AGRICULTURE
AND FISHERIES MINISTER SHANFARI FOR HELP IN IMMEDIATELY OBTAINING
SERVICES OF U.S. FISHERIES EXPERT. OMANGOV IS WORRIED BY
DEATH OF FISH ALONG DHOFAR COAST. FOR LAST TWO DAYS "HUNDREDS
OF TONS" (BY OMANGOV ESTIMATE OF DEAD FISH HAVE BEEN DEPOSITED
ON A THIRTY-MILE STRETCH OF BEACHES FROM RAYSUT TO TAQA.

2. MASSIVE FISH KILL SUCH AS THIS HAS NOT HAPPENED BEFORE
IN DHOFAR. OMAN FISHERY OFFICIALS DO NOT BELIEVE THAT KILL IS
CAUSED BY RED TIDE; RED TIDE HAS HAPPENED SPORADICALLY DURING
1973-74 IN NORTHERN OMAN BUT IS VERY RARE OFF DHOFAR. SHORTAGE
OF OXYGEN IN WATER CAUSED BY ROUGH MONSOON SEAS HAS OCCAS-
IONALLY KILLED MODERATE NUMBER OF SARDINES IN SUMMER MONTHS,
BUT ALL KINDS OF FISH FROM GROUPERS TO SMALL SPECIES ARE NOT
AFFECTED. TWO WEEKS AGO SAF DUMPED 50 OBSOLETE PHOSPHOROUS
BOMBS 16 MILES OFFSHORE, BUT OMANGOV DOES NOT BELIEVE THAT
ORDNANCE DUMPING IS RESPONSIBLE FOR PROBLEM.

3. OMANGOV IS RIGHTLY WORRIED SINCE MAJOR DECLINE IN DHOFAR
FISHING GROUNDS WOULD WRECK PROMISING EXPORT INDUSTRY AS WELL
LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

PAGE 02 MUSCAT 01086 010943Z

AS THROWING THOUSANDS OF FISHERMEN OUT OF WORK. NEITHER OMANGOV

NOR UNDP HAVE EXPERTS IN COUNTRY QUALIFIED TO ASCERTAIN CAUSE OF FISH KILL. INFORMATION FROM DHOFAR IS SCANTY, BUT SAMPLES OF WATER AND DEAD FISH ARE BEING FLOWN TO MUSCAT. AT REQUEST OF OMANGOV, UNDP HAS ALREADY CONTACTED HEADQUARTERS IN NEW YORK AND FAO ROME FOR HELP IN PROVIDING EXPERT; AG MINISTER SHANFARI WAS DESPERATE ENOUGH TO OFFER TO PAY FOR UN SPECIAL ASSISTANCE. SHANFARI CONTACTED AMBASSADOR FOR U.S. EXPERT AT SAME TIME.

4. ACTION REQUESTED: DEPT CONTACT DEPT OF AGRICULTURE OR OTHER WASHINGTON AGENCIES, AND, SUBJECT TO RESULTS OF URGENT USG CONSULTATION WITH UNDP NEW YORK, CONSIDER MAKING FISHERIES EXPERT AVAILABLE IMMEDIATELY TO ASSIST OMANGOV INVESTIGATE PROBLEM. WOLLE

LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

NNN

Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: X
Capture Date: 01 JAN 1994
Channel Indicators: n/a
Current Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Concepts: FISHERIES, SPECIES PROTECTION, CONSULTANTS, INVESTIGATIONS
Control Number: n/a
Copy: SINGLE
Draft Date: 01 SEP 1976
Decaption Date: 01 JAN 1960
Decaption Note:
Disposition Action: RELEASED
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Authority: GolinoFR
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment: 25 YEAR REVIEW
Disposition Date: 28 MAY 2004
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:
Document Number: 1976MUSCAT01086
Document Source: CORE
Document Unique ID: 00
Drafter: n/a
Enclosure: n/a
Executive Order: N/A
Errors: N/A
Film Number: D760331-0787
From: MUSCAT
Handling Restrictions: n/a
Image Path:
ISecure: 1
Legacy Key: link1976/newtext/t197609102/aaaadjib.tel
Line Count: 74
Locator: TEXT ON-LINE, ON MICROFILM
Office: ACTION OES
Original Classification: LIMITED OFFICIAL USE
Original Handling Restrictions: n/a
Original Previous Classification: n/a
Original Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Page Count: 2
Previous Channel Indicators: n/a
Previous Classification: LIMITED OFFICIAL USE
Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Reference: n/a
Review Action: RELEASED, APPROVED
Review Authority: GolinoFR
Review Comment: n/a
Review Content Flags:
Review Date: 11 MAY 2004
Review Event:
Review Exemptions: n/a
Review History: RELEASED <11 MAY 2004 by BoyleJA>; APPROVED <12 MAY 2004 by GolinoFR>
Review Markings:

Margaret P. Grafeld
Declassified/Released
US Department of State
EO Systematic Review
04 MAY 2006

Review Media Identifier:
Review Referrals: n/a
Review Release Date: n/a
Review Release Event: n/a
Review Transfer Date:
Review Withdrawn Fields: n/a
Secure: OPEN
Status: NATIVE
Subject: OMANGOV REQUESTS U.S. EXPERT TO INVESTIGATE LARGE FISH KILL
TAGS: EAID, EFIS, MU
To: STATE
Type: TE
Markings: Margaret P. Grafeld Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 04 MAY 2006